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Masonic Trestleboard

January 2020

***Making Good Men Better
since 1867***

**Stated Communication
January 16th at 5:30 pm**

**Brandywine Masonic Hall
2016 Foulk Road
Wilmington, DE 19810**

All Visiting Brethren Welcome!

www.eurekadupont.org

www.facebook.com/EurekaDuPontLodge.23.29/



Eureka-DuPont



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MARSHAL

Hiram Abiff, PGM



JANUARY 2020

The 246th Regular Communication of Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 will be held at the Brandywine Masonic Hall, 2016 Foulk Road in Wilmington, Delaware, on Thursday, January 16th at 5:30 pm. The reading of correspondence, payment of bills, committee reports, reception of petitions, Masonic birthdays, and all other business, as may be lawfully brought before the Lodge will be transacted. The dress code is Business; tuxedos/dark suits and white gloves for officers, coat and tie for the Brethren.

Kevin O'Rourke, Worshipful Master

Attest: *Rollyn Trueblood*, Secretary

**Need a Ride to Lodge or other function?
We'll get you one. Call the Master or any officer.**

FROM THE EAST



My Brothers,

Recently, we lost M.W. Barry C. Hughes, PGM. He was Grand Master in 2013, the year I was initiated into the Craft. Since the day M.W. Barry became my Brother and I his, our relationship developed into more than that; he was my Masonic mentor and my friend. As I moved through the chairs, M.W. Barry's duties as Grand Instructor for District 1 provided multiple opportunities for me to learn our ritual from someone who was dedicated to the traditions and loved performing and teaching it to his fellow Brothers. I was often taught two slightly different ways to perform a specific part, but in the end, I adopted Barry's and will continue to perform as he instructed as a testament to his legacy. Although Barry was involved in our Jurisdiction at many levels, his presence at the District 1 degrees will be most missed by me.

Let us remember all those Brother Masons who have come before us for over 300 years and more. It is the traditions that help us understand the subtle meanings of the work we do and let us build on those in a changing world where Masonry will continue to play a great part if we can impart those traditions to new Brothers.

We wish a very Happy New Year to all our Brethren and their families. Let us hope it will be a good year.

Hope to see you all in lodge.

Fraternally,

Kevin O'Rourke, WM

Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 Living Past Masters

2018 Kevin O'Rourke
2017 Harvey S. Goldberg
2016 Jerome R. "Jay" Troy
2015 Thomas J. Cole
2014 Gary R. Williamson
2005-13 David M. Simkins
1998-2003 Robert Hiddemen
1993 Peter M. Pena**
1990 Neill M. Thompson*
1975 John R. Kraus
1973 David Hipp
1972 Kenneth C. Butler*
1970 Alvin M. Rubenstein
1969 John Barnes



Affiliated Past Masters

James A. Pletz, PGM (#33 DE)
Russell B. Combs (#529 PA)
Michael W. Jones (#34 DE)
Cory R. Kramer (#34 DE)
Patrick S. Light (#33 DE)

* Suspended

** Demitted



**EUREKA-DUPONT
2019-2020 COMMITTEES**

Candidate Instruction:

Jim Pletz, PGM
Gary Williamson, PM
David Simkins, PM
Mitri Habash

Investigation:

Gary Williamson, PM
Michael Jones, PM
Pat Light, PM
David Simkins, PM
Kelvin Blassingame
Richard Williamson
Drew Wedel
Garry Norton

Officer Instruction:

Jim Pletz, PGM
Kevin O'Rourke, PM

By-Laws:

Rollyn Trueblood
David Simkins, PM
Kevin O'Rourke, PM

Sick and Infirm:

David Simkins, PM

Investment:

Michael Jones, PM
Jay Troy, PM
Laurent Zenidiu

Widows and Orphans:

Gary Williamson, PM

IT and Social Media:

John Della Guardia

Trustees:

Jim Pletz, PGM
Richard Williamson
Tom Sandilands
Said Shakshir
David Simkins, PM

Shotgun Fundraiser:

Garry Norton



Masonic Birthdays – 193 Years in Masonry

Brother	Years In Masonry
Robert R. Hiddemen, PM	30
Mark G. Siple	25
Harvey S. Goldberg, PM	8
Edward J. Culver, Jr.	7
Robert D. Rock	7
Garry S. Norton	1
James T. Simkins	1



DISTRICT 2 MASTER MASON DEGREE

The Committee on Education, Work & Instruction will be conferring the Sublime Degree of Master Mason immediately following the opening of lodge at 7:00 pm at the New Castle Masonic Temple. There will be officers from several District 2 lodges conferring this degree. Be there on the square! The degree will be conferred upon two Brothers from District 2 and our own Lee Butler from District 1's Eureka-DuPont.

The degree will be conferred at the New Castle Masonic Temple on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00 pm and hosted by Christiana Lodge No. 35. 1406 Wilmington Road, New Castle Delaware, 19720

Please come out and show your support for District 2 and Brother Butler.

Wilmington Breakfast Club

Information on the breakfast club is available here: <http://jtroy.com/breakfast>

Come out and join your brothers helping the hungry.



FOOD DRIVE

As part of this year's attempts to reach out to the community, Eureka-DuPont will sponsor a food drive during our Stated and Special Communications. Please bring canned goods or non-perishables to the meeting and the Lodge will distribute to a worthy local food bank or charity.

GRAND MASTER'S VISITATION



Join Eureka-DuPont and Washington Lodge No. 1 as we receive the Grand Master and his staff on Thursday, January 16.

The lodges will open at 5:30 pm to get our usual business completed, dinner will be at 6:30 pm and we will receive the Grand Master at 7:30 pm. This is an open dinner; your Ladies are invited to attend.

At the request of the Grand Master and his Lady Joan, roast beef, mashed potatoes and green beans will be provided by our friends at Ruth Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.



W. Brother Herbert Rubenstein will be in attendance to receive his 50-Year pin from the Grand Master. A great milestone for Bro. Rubenstein.

A small dinner donation will be requested.
(\$10-\$20)

ANNUAL DUES

Brothers,
Dues invoices are being sent by email and by regular mail to those Brothers who have not provided an email address. Please send payment payable to Eureka-DuPont to:

Eureka-DuPont
23 Palmer Drive
Middletown, DE 19709



As you may know, Eureka-DuPont's dues were increased to \$50 annually, the Grand Lodge Dues and Assessments remain at \$35. Please pay your dues promptly to avoid additional costs for postage.

If you are having financial hardship, please contact the lodge or any Brother for assistance.

DINNER IS SERVED

The Grand Visitation Dinner will be served at 6:30ish in the Brandywine Masonic Hall Collation Room. All Brothers and their Ladies are Welcome!

This month our menu includes:

- **Roast Beast,**
- **Mashed Taters and**
- **Green beans**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 7:** Granite-Corinthian No. 34 Stated 7:30 pm
- **January 13:** Officer Practice 7:00 pm
- **January 14:** Brandywine No. 33 Stated 7:30 pm
- **January 16:** Grand Master Visitation to Eureka-DuPont No. 23-29 and Washington No. 1 5:30 pm
- **January 18:** Senior Lodge Officer Workshop (Dover) 9:00 am
- **January 21:** District 2 Master Mason Degree (New Castle) 7:00 pm

15TH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE NIGHT

Festive Merriment -- Good Cheer -- Fellowship -- Family -- Community Service -- Tasty Delights.....

All of this and more was in ample supply at Eureka-DuPont Lodge No. 23-29 on December 19. That evening, while an earlier-than-usual lodge meeting was in progress, our families and friends, gathered in the collation room and prepared for our annual children's gift-wrapping project. Grand Master M.W. Evan Moody, most of his staff and their Ladies were present and lent a welcome hand in the work. Thank you for Colette Della Guardia and Sue O'Rourke for preparing the collation room for the festivities.

This community service effort has been a Eureka-DuPont tradition for the past 15 years, and it continues because of the efforts of the Grand Lodge and all the Lodges in Delaware. During the year contributions are made, and in December, Eureka-DuPont Brothers purchase gifts for deserving children in Delaware. This year, there were hundreds of gifts to be wrapped. The gift distribution is made through the efforts of Bro. Bill and Marty Downing. For the past 46 years, the Downings have been providing disadvantaged families with Christmas gifts for their children. When Bro. Downing was on the Grand Staff, M.W. Herb Fulmer, then our Grand Secretary, began to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Delaware in this worthy cause. Since then, Eureka-DuPont has been honored to lend a hand and ensure the gifts are wrapped and the families and children have a Christmas to celebrate.

The festivities kicked off with, of course, a delicious dinner. Meanwhile, Cindy Rietz, Music Director of the Creekside Village chorale, provided festive holiday music for Christmas sing-alongs. After all the toys were wrapped, taped, labeled and stacked, the big treat of the night happened -- the chocolate was served, piles of chocolate of all varieties, as well as other delightful sweets. The adults enjoyed the treats as much as the children. **A Special Thanks to Kayla and Samantha Lorenzen for being the best of the elves as they were everywhere helping to make this a special night for all.**



ON THE SQUARE – PATRICK LIGHT, PM

Two things can be correct at the same time. Sides have their viewpoints and validity in their arguments, and when dialogue occurs, the slide rule is moved, and a solution is reached. How we get ready for lodge says a lot about us. Our peers look at us and make assumptions that naturally help us navigate our surroundings. Peers can be the brethren in the lodges we visit, or the public that see us: walking in a parade, when we dash into the convenience store before a degree, or getting a drink after lodge to celebrate. How Masons dress is a matter for serious contemplation.

One end of the spectrum calls for finesse and decorum in our dress: black tie & tuxedo for officers and dark suits for brothers. The spectrum slides over to coat and tie as the standard expectation of dress, and then business casual for all. The argument can be made legitimately for the mentioned options. Think Lodge of Instructions and outings to other lodges for the later standard of dress.

The spectrum also carries the threshold for completely casual attire, *come as you are comfortable*, type of mentality. Briefly thinking about casual, the trend is not typically in use in our jurisdiction for the work of the lodge. The only time that casual dress for lodge labor occurs when there is an outdoor degree. If casual is a Master's pleasure, or even business casual for all attendees, the loosening of dress standards could be a remedy for dwindling attendance experienced in blue lodges.

Thus, how do we circle this square? Rituals teach us multiple times in our first step that this plane of life is short lived, fleeting, and we should look toward internal development; rather than outward appearance. Using that train of thought, an argument for casual or business casual dress appears. Let us do our work, focus on the endeavor at hand, and not fuss about our garments. The author would opine and may suggest that a level of casual for our stated communications in lodges struggling with attendance. This mentality is especially valid for our brothers who come from previous engagements, like from work with no time to change. This scenario should be an acceptable exception to the rule of dress, no matter the agreed standard if it is not abused. Coming in jeans and a graphic tee shirt on lodge night since you don't want to dress up, and all the other brothers are mindful of their appearance is not the acceptable exception. The exception is more in the vein of not ostracizing our working brothers who want to experience fellowship of an evening's event, but are dissuaded to attend out of fear of changing at home to be late for the drop of the gavel.

Our cultural precedent urges and requires black tie and suit when working with the public. Fine dress with the public chiefly occurs twice: public ceremony and ritual work. The public should see the

best face we can possibly offer. We owe the extra step to dress well if we want to make the platitude of being the best fraternity in the world a reality; rather than a slogan. Public interactions include the installations of officers, dedications, and when we pay departed brethren their last rite. These public ceremonies are to be argued our original and best advertising from time immemorial.

Regarding ritual work, if we do the work, chiefly, correctly and with vigor: our aim is that it impresses and transforms candidates into brothers. Various schools of initiation call for candidates and the facilitators to prepare for ceremonies in strict observance of particular customs.

Thus, when we work, we should take great care in our dress to cultivate ambience and to signal the importance of what we came here to do. Even if we do not dress to the highest elegance for every communication of lodge, we should know how and be able to dress respectably when an occasion arises. Which moves into the relevant and often overlooked issue of dress; let's explore an example with an expectation created at Master Mason degrees in our state.

Think back to the last several Master Mason degrees you personally attended. At the end of the evening, after the ritualistic labor was concluded, the raised brother was conducted to the Holy Alter for presentations. Often in a healthy lodge, the brother will be tacked with six or more pins. Stop and think about that custom, and it should cause concern.

These brothers will be the same members who return to their next Stated Communication wearing the same jacket, being weighed down with the armada of pins. Commonly, brothers tell this raised brother that he will come to love pins, and that is true – but we create our culture, and we must be careful. Not all one's pins have to be worn at once; think about how the public sees adult men who bothered to wear a sport coat, only to have the appearance ruined with a tacky slew of pins.

To correct this particular issue, consider the following suggestion. On degree night let the ranking brother; think the Grand Master or his representative, the presiding Master, or Square Club President pin the candidate. All other pins can be given to the candidate to enjoy at another time and add to his personal collection at home.

Thus, remember we need to act upon the square, and contemplate how we dress. If our fraternity is to take ourselves seriously, and grow we need to tend to, and cultivate the culture we want for ourselves. Every man who wears Masonic pins, or in our argument a Masonic Pin, is someone's impression of our fraternity. To that end, let us respect and grow upon our heritage by dressing the best our time and means can afford, and within the expectation laid out by the Master on his Trestle Board.

Farewell to our Brother, M.W. Barry C. Hughes, Past Grand Master

Barry Cloud Hughes, age 73, of Wilmington, DE passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 4, 2019. Barry was born on St. Patrick's Day March 17, 1946 in West Chester, PA. He was the son of Cloud D. and Mabel F. Hughes. Barry's father passed away when he was young. His mother married Jesse P. Murdoch who raised Barry from 9 years of age. In August 1992, he married Patti Lafferty, daughter of Joseph and Betty Lafferty.

He graduated from Henderson High School in 1964 where he played baseball and soccer. In his senior year, he was part of the soccer team that won the PIAA State Championship. He attended Goldey-Beacom College from September 1964 to June 1966 graduating with an Associate of Arts degree in accounting and business administration. Barry enjoyed hunting and fishing and he played softball in the NCC Senior Softball League and in the Delaware Senior Olympics. He enjoyed being surrounded by family and friends telling stories and having a good laugh but most importantly he loved spending time with his grandchildren Hunter and Charlie who will remember him as "Pap".

In September 1966, he enlisted in the Army. After completing Army School for Radar and Computer Electronic Maintenance for Nike Hercules Missiles, he served two years on a Nike Hercules Missile Battery in Germany.

He was employed by Delta Airlines in October 1972 at Philadelphia International Airport, retiring after twenty-two years in 1994. In 1996, he was employed by Doherty Funeral Homes as a Certified Funeral Preplanning Consultant. He retired in June of 2017.

On April 23, 1985, he received his EA Degree and became a member of Granite Lodge 34. He received his FC Degree on May 21, 1985 and the MM Degree on June 1, 1985. He served as Worshipful Master of Granite Lodge 34 in 1990 and 2000. He was appointed Grand Sword Bearer in 1992, Grand Marshal 2003, Elected Junior Grand Warden 2009, Senior Grand Warden 2010, Deputy Grand Master 2011, Grand Master 2012 and Grand Treasurer 2013 to date. He took over as chairman of the Committee on Education, Leadership and Work in 2014, and was a member of the Wilmington Masonic Hall Co. He is a Past Sovereign Prince and Past Commander in Chief of the AASR, Valley of Wilmington and received the 33 degree on August 30, 2005. He is also a member of NUR Shrine, Royal Order of Jesters, Brandywine Forest 20 TCL, RAM, Council and Commandery as well as a member of the Delaware Colonials Degree Team.

He is survived by his wife, Patti of 27 years, his twin daughters, Christine McKernan (Mike) and Lauren Sivak, his grandchildren, Hunter and Charlie, and his beloved dogs, Lulu, Mookie and Belli. He was predeceased by his sister, Anne R. DuMez (Ted).

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in Barry's memory to the Granite Corinthian Lodge, # 34, 1611 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803.

